CLAIMS

1. A method for producing 2,3,6,7,10,11-hexahydroxytriphenylene comprising reacting catechol with a peroxide.

2. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the peroxide is a persulfate.

3. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the peroxide is at least one member selected from the group consisting of sodium persulfate, potassium persulfate and ammonium persulfate.

4. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the peroxide is ammonium persulfate.

5. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the peroxide is hydrogen peroxide.

6. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the peroxide is used in a proportion of from 0.5 to 10 moles per mole of catechol.

7. A method according to Claim 2, wherein the persulfate is used in a proportion of from 0.5 to 10 moles per mole of catechol.

8. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the reaction is carried out in the presence of acid.

9. A method according to Claim 8, wherein the acid used is sulfuric acid or perchloric acid.

10. A method according to Claim 8, wherein the acid used is a 50 to 80 wt% aqueous solution of sulfuric acid or a 50 to 80

wt% aqueous solution of perchloric acid.